

ARTICLE APPEARED
ON PAGE 47

BROADCASTING
5 August 1985

In Brief

Southern California Americans for Democratic Action Foundation has filed **\$145-million lawsuit** in federal district court in Los Angeles **against CIA, CIA director William Casey and ABC**, alleging, among other things, that network defamed man who claims CIA directed him to kill Hawaii investment banker. Complaint stems from series of ABC News stories last year that broadcast allegation by Scott Barnes, who asserted CIA contact had tried to recruit him to kill Hawaii investment banker. CIA filed complaints at FCC (those complaints were subsequently rejected), asserting that allegation was false. ABC *World News Tonight* anchor Peter Jennings, two months after broadcasts, broadcast statement that network had been unable to obtain corroboration and that Barnes had refused to take lie-detector test. As result, Jennings said, ABC News had concluded that Barnes's "charges cannot be substantiated and we have no reason to doubt the CIA's denials." Barnes, however, according to his attorney, is contending that story is true. He's also alleging ABC libeled him by claiming he refused to take lie-detector test. Barnes's attorney said Barnes had offered to take such tests on seven occasions. Barnes, according to his attorney, is also alleging that Casey and CIA pressured ABC into making retraction.